

Landowner protection promised by Hydro men

About 100 Nassagaweya and Esquing area homeowners were assured Wednesday they would receive all possible protection when Ontario Hydro expropriates or negotiates for their land for a 500 kV hydro line.

The Ontario cabinet announced its choice for a final route several months ago. The route is subject to minor changes as determined by the land compensation board. It will cross Milton on the north side of Highway 401, cutting south and east on the east side of the built up section.

Manager of Appraisal Division Bob Holley and Director of Properties for Ontario Hydro Neil McMurtrie outlined what process would be followed to make sure landowners got a fair deal, at a meeting in the Lions Hall, Campbellville.

Several points Among those points officials made during the meeting were the following:

—If a farm is rendered uneconomical by the taking, Hydro will pay for the whole farm and try to sell the balance to the abutting owner.

—Owners will be entitled to the protections under the expropriation act.

—It will take until January 1977 before deals are finalized according to a tentative schedule.

—Landowners will be able to have their own lawyer and their own appraiser act for them and Ontario Hydro will pick up the cost as long as costs are considered reasonable.

—Hydro does have to prove a need for the land it takes.

—Hydro will share in costs of maintaining fences separating hydro land from abutting farms.

—Hydro will discourage building under the line and will pay replacement value for any buildings on land acquired.

Avoid hardships
During the meeting officials said hydro will launch a three phase program designed to lead to acquiring the land. They said the three phases were designated as being information, enquiries to determine necessity and negotiations.

They claimed there would be no settlements until the third phase was reached unless there were some cases where the situation was working a hardship on an individual.

It was explained that those who were settled later often feel that their settlements were predicated on the first few. They noted that all settlements would be based on market value at the time of taking.

One man said he was anxious to settle. He said he was unable to fix or repair buildings or plan for the future. He said he wasn't

interested in waiting until 1977 and going through the long arduous process. He wanted to settle now, he said.

Nothing major Many questions were asked about a host of circumstances and what sort of compensation individuals would be entitled to.

No major grievances from landowners who were being expropriated were registered during the meeting. One man who owns land abutting the lands to be acquired wondered if hydro would fence the boundary between the two properties so his cattle would not go on hydro property.

He explained existing fences were in poor repair but that wasn't a problem, until hydro bought the property.

"We'll be your neighbor and share maintenance of the fence with you," McMurtrie said.

"But you're an undesirable neighbor," the man said.

McMurtrie assured him the cattle would come to no harm even if they did go on hydro property.

Halton East MPP Jim Snow attended the meeting along with Milton Mayor Anne MacArthur and a number of Milton councillors.

Snow assisted Ontario Hydro officials in fielding questions from the floor.

Milton Council briefs

During a regular meeting of Milton Council Monday night council:

—Passed a by-law setting rates of pay for the Hydro Commission chairman at \$900 per annum and commissioners at \$700 per annum. Members will be docked \$30 for each meeting missed to a maximum of 12 and will receive \$35 per day for attending out of town meetings.

—Was advised by OHAP coordinator Bob Holmes that he had met with developers active in the Milton area in an attempt to have them build accommodation for families. Holmes said he shared council's concern about couples with children being evicted from apartment buildings.

—Recommended the following appointments: Councillors Jim Watson and Gord Krantz to the Halton Region Conservation Authority; Councillor Russ Powadiuk to the Grand River Conservation Authority; Edgar Foster to Milton District Hospital Board.

—Asked planning Director Bob Zsadyani to attend an OMB hearing Jan. 10 at Regional Headquarters concerning an appeal against a severance granted to J. and K. Huempfer. Zsadyani will support the severance.

—Received a report from Halton Hills Animal Control noting that employees had answered 293 calls in July,

August and September, took 64 dogs to the pound, destroyed 42, placed nine in homes, had 13 reclaimed and issued 45 warnings.

—Referred to the administration committee a request from R. T. Colbeck for two more taxi licences. Colbeck said that reducing his licences from seven to three has resulted in a reduction of service and has increased the time his customers have to wait. Some wait for an hour.

EXTENSIVE SYSTEM

Consumers' Association of Canada reports that the National Health and Welfare is planning a computerized health record system for the 35,000 inhabitants of the Northwest Territories. This will give district health offices access to an Ottawa service bureau through telecommunication links. The system, which will contain information on individual health, doctors, facilities and social problems such as drug addiction and alcoholism, is probably the most extensive under consideration in Canada.

OUTPOSTS

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Owners of artifacts a matter of opinion

Who do the Indian artifacts at Crawford Lake belong to? Halton Region Conservation Authority members pondered this question at their meeting last week as they announced a further digging on the site of a Middleport Indian Village at Crawford Lake.

The village was uncovered in the summer of 1973 during an archeological excavation done jointly by the Royal Ontario Museum and HRCA. At that time the numerous artifacts were taken back to the ROM by archeologists Dr. J. H. McAndrews, associate curator of geology at the museum and Bill Findlayson.

1976 digging Because of regulations set down for recipients of Canada

Council Grants (under which the museum was operating) ROM must maintain ownership of all findings. However, a second digging is planned for the summer of 1976 and plans are made for the reconstruction of the Indian Village. HRCA is now showing concern about the availability of these treasures.

"If we eventually have a museum of our own instead of being stuck with the one we have, we may want possession of the artifacts," said Frank Rogers, Burlington representative on the Authority.

The artifacts are catalogued and stored by ROM and are on loan to the

Authority. Pottery Halton Hills representative Len Coxe voiced his concern over the ownership of the artifacts saying, "If we don't own them we'll have to follow their (ROM) suggestions for their use."

The artifacts found include clay pottery and arrowheads. They were discovered in the area of the "middens" or garbage dumps of the Indians. The middens contained evidence of the food that the Indians would have consumed during their habitation such as deer bones, raspberry seeds, grape seeds and corn cobs as well as sewing utensils, pottery and flint.

CHIPPED STONE artifacts found in the summer of 1973 on the Crawford Lake site of an Indian Village have been catalogued and stored

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