

# Council boiling down the water question

By BRAD REAUME

The Champion

The question for a referendum on chlorinated water in Milton has been simplified.

Town councillors reconsidered their question at Monday night's meeting. They settled on: 'Are you in favour of the continuous chlorination of Milton's water supply?'

However, they also requested that Halton Region, the level of government responsible for water services, authorize the question to go on ballots in urban Milton during the upcoming November municipal election.

The Region will not be able to deal with the request until meetings reconvene in September.

The original question approved last month asked if voters approved of Milton involving various levels of government in the fight against continuous chlorination.

Councillor John Challinor called the original question redundant, saying the process had already been followed as part of Milton's fight to remove chlorination.

Councillor Colin Best tried to include a fallback position, saying he was fearful that a request for the Region to adopt the referendum question would fail. Council plowed ahead, with Councillor Rick Day suggesting Halton's blessing is irrelevant.

"Let's all work the game called politics and lobby," said Mr. Challinor. "It's not fair that those who want this badly should leave it up to Barry Lee, Gord Krantz and Colin Best (Milton's

regional council representatives). Every one of us should approach members of the (regional) health and social service committee. That's how it works."

Mr. Challinor said he is not convinced that the question needs to be on the ballot because, he said, the result will be either 98 or 99 per cent against chlorination.

However, "It's important that the Region realize this is important to the residents of Milton," said Councillor Wally Hunter.

Councillor Brian Penman said there are some rural residents along Derry Road who are on urban water services. He suggested consideration be given to allowing them to vote in the referendum. He did acknowledge after some discussion that if allowing them to vote meant extending the vote to all rural residents, then it probably was not a good idea. Mayor Gord Krantz pointed out

that having large numbers of unaffected people voting would invalidate the results.

"One person now has chlorinated water in use at their chicken farm operation," said Mr. Penman. "He has horror stories to tell. Do the 13,000 chickens get a vote?"

Mr. Penman also pointed to the likelihood that other rural residents in Milton would get chlorinated water from Peel Region.

According to Mr. Best there is a community in Vermont which has managed to get an exemption to state regulations similar to what Milton is seeking from the provincial government.

He reminded councillors that the ultimate decision is with the provincial Ministry of Environment. He said the referendum will show what the people want, not what politicians or staff say they want.

## Restaurant is hit

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### Stolen vehicle recovered

A 1984 Dodge van stolen overnight Sunday from a Syer Drive home turned up Monday parked at the side of the westbound Hwy. 401.

The car, taken from the front of the residence, was out of fuel and had been ransacked. It was recovered near Mississauga Road at 2 p.m.

Nothing was stolen or damaged, police said.

### Ice House targeted

About \$650 worth of beer and soft drinks were stolen overnight Monday from the Ice House Restaurant in Campbellville.

The culprits pried open a door sometime between 10:30 p.m. Monday and 6:30 a.m. Tuesday.

### Flagpole tossed into pool

Vandals caused \$1,000 damage when they threw a flag pole into a Gowland Crescent backyard pool sometime between August 1 and 3.

The pole ripped through a solar blanket and punctured the pool liner, police said.

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