

Province wants to dump landfill without environmental studies

By JOHN STEWART

The Ontario ministry of the environment wants to put landfill in Lake Ontario without the elaborate environmental studies which the Credit Valley Conservation Authority has been subjected to, says the CVCA chairman Grant Clarkson.

An executive meeting of the authority last week dealt with an application from the ministry. The province wants to protect the existing shoreline near the Lakeview sewage plant from further erosion. Their application also requested that fill be allowed to provide settling ponds for

incinerator ash and to construct an earth berm (mound) which would be protected from the lake by graded, crushed stone. "They're doing things they're asking us to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to do," complained Clarkson. "They've got no en-

vironmental assessment, they just want to fill it." The chairman added that it seems to be a "completely unreal world" when the ministry of the environment can "hold up" the authority's waterfront plan for three years and then "they want to fill doing the same damn thing."

The ministry has required that the authority do extensive environmental studies and monitoring to ensure that landfill placed in the lake will not have a detrimental effect on fish or plant life, water temperatures, water current patterns and other features.

to attend the next executive meeting in person to explain their proposals. William Marshall, the project manager of the ministry's central region, said the application is for the third phase of a shore protection program. The new earth berm will allow creation of a settling pond in the future if the ministry decides to use a different type of procedure to eliminate the sewage sludge.

"What effect will this have on our development?" wondered Clarkson. "Crooke's Park is only a quarter of a mile away."

It was Crooke's Park which has been delayed longest because of provincial concerns, especially about intake for the nearby water filtration plant which supplies most of Mississauga's water supply. The ministry was also concerned about the combined effect of the proposed landfill and the warm water from the nearby Lakeview Generating Station.

A revised plan for Crooke's Park, which lessens the potential problems has been approved by the ministry.

"Why do they get off scot free?" asked Clarkson.

Robert Harrison of Mississauga wanted further information about the settling ponds for incinerator ash. "I don't know if that's a good or bad thing," he remarked.

At the suggestion of operations manager Basil Noels, the application was deferred and representatives of the ministry will be invited

Councillors feel plan may become political football

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plan, had a new open space policy and had adopted a general land use program in May.

Dr. Dobkin repeated his belief that the review "is the most important thing this council's done." He said it should be paramount above everything else.

"I don't think great political issues will come in at this point," he claimed. "I certainly hope they won't."

It's very important that this council deal with the plan, not a new council which will contain several new members unfamiliar with the review, according to Dobkin.

Councillor Ron Searle replied that the review was

"for posterity and is not the exclusive property of this council."

Searle said he'd hate to see the review become a cynical exercise in planning where political expediency became a factor in decision-making. The review may even prove to be the main subject of the election, he suggested.

"People are going to take diametrically opposed positions on the official plan. That's a political fact of life," he continued. "I'd hate to see the official plan go down the drain on the basis of our adversarial system."

McCallion repeated her belief that the campaign will affect the review. "I'm sorry," she said. "I'm a prac-

tical politician, not a dreamer. It's going to be just like any other issue in any other campaign."

She said the original schedule was set up "just to avoid this."

Nothing that under the revised schedule, the new plan is proposed to be adopted six or seven days before the election, Councillor Harold Kennedy stated that it would be "naive, to say the least, to think it won't be part of the campaign."

In his report, Edmunds said the schedule had been thrown off because of three factors: Delays in input; unanticipated problems; and reduced resources and extra work. The delays have been caus-

ed because the region's economic employment study, expected by the end of April, hasn't been completed, because a federal aircraft noise forecast has been delayed, because the regional housing study is not completed and because other departments in the city have been so busy working on issues such as the budget and lot levies that they have not had time for official plan work.

The major unanticipated problem has been the discrepancy in standards between the provincial ministries of transport and environment over acceptable noise exposure factors on highways.

Dobkin asked to outline allegations in inquiry

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The debate Monday was filled with pointed exchanges and questions about the consequences of council's past and future actions.

Councillors Frank McKechnie and Mary Helen Spence questioned the necessity of Searle's motion. McKechnie said Searle seemed to be asking that charges be brought against Dr. Dobkin for his part in calling the inquiry. "No I'm not," replied Searle. "It sure sounds like it," claimed McKechnie.

Searle said he simply wanted to know the truth. He said that if there was any particular motive involved in calling the inquiry, it should be brought to light. "The mayor has been charged," he said, referring to Dr. Watt's accusations.

The meeting began with a 30-minute speech by Searle in which he reviewed the chronological history of the inquiry. He noted that he had called for full disclosure in "this sad affair" from almost the beginning. He said his remarks on April 28 about the questionable legality of the process had since been borne out by the courts.

The councillor said he and others voted for the resolution that first night, when it passed 10-0, thinking that both city solicitor Basil Clark and Dr.

Dobkin, were privy to the allegations only Dobkin knew the charges. The Ward 7 member said six of the nine allegations had already been investigated by city police and proven unfounded in 1973. Dr. Dobkin already knew this, he claimed.

Even though the local police, the OPP, the attorney-general and other provincial departments have said there is no validity to the allegations rumors persist, noted Searle.

He referred to an article by Dr. Desmond Morton of Erin-dale College which was published in the June issue of City Magazine. Quoting from the article, Searle said it gave the impression that there may have been some conspiracy between the provincial government and the local government to suppress the inquiry. He claimed this view may be held by a significant segment of the community.

"Nothing is sacred in this article," remarked Searle in labelling it "garbage."

"No one is free from attack, no one is free from being impugned since we set out with this thing on April 28, 1975," added Searle. "It's the most disgusting, sordid affair ever thrust on the public in general."

Man charged in wife's death

A charge of murder laid against a 47-year-old Edenhurst Drive man in connection with the shooting death of his wife was withdrawn during a brief appearance in provincial court this week.

John Markusch was remanded in custody to July 29 for a bail hearing on a charge of criminal negligence causing death.

His wife Maureen, 47, was shot to death in the couple's

home July 20 about 4 p.m., apparently during a struggle over a rifle.

Police said the cause of death was a bullet wound from a .308-cal. hunting rifle. Markusch was charged after an investigation into the shooting by Det. Sgt. James Wingate and Det. Noel Catney of the Peel homicide squad.

Markusch lived at home with his wife and their four children.

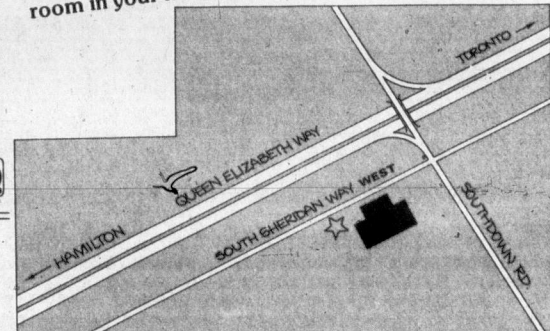
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