

'Common Sense' Approach May Be Taken—GRCA

CAYUGA (Staff) - The Grand River Conservation Authority may be taking a softer line in dealing with residents and businesses along the Grand River flood zone area as a result of a meeting Friday with Haldimand County council.

However, the GRCA will continue its hard line in preventing any new development along the flood area.

Mac Coutts, GRCA general manager, said the authority would be inclined to use "common sense and discret-

ion" in the existing built up areas.

The GRCA recently released maps of various areas which designated flood lines. The area from the river channel to the maximum observed floodline is where no building will be permitted. The area between the maximum observed floodlines and the regional floodline is an area where some selected development may take place. The regional floodline is the line calculated to where the water would rise if a storm of hurricane

proportions were to hit the area.

About 60 Cayuga property owners are protesting the regulations, claiming they have devalued their land in some cases made their properties valueless, except as parkland.

Cayuga Reeve Ted Powell questioned the lines at council, particularly as they affect Dunnville, where the entire downtown section is within the flood zone.

He said the regulations appear to prevent any rebuilding of downtown Dunnville. The

county's home for the aged, the Dunnville hospital and a proposed apartment complex would all be affected by the regulations.

James Bauer, authority chairman, said Dunnville is a special problem. Among the measures that could be taken to alleviate the situation would be to blow out the dam, put in control structures to

drop the water levels or to put in diking. Mr. Bauer said the best results could be achieved by putting in control gates.

Mr. Bauer said he was certain "if I had property (in the flood zone) I would be keeping in mind that these aren't arbitrary lines as in zoning, but are actually there.

"If one is to invest money in a business or home, it would be prudent to know about these lines," he said.

Mr. Bauer noted that the flood lines represented a real possibility. The danger of a major storm is not a 100 to one shot, he said. Ontario is hit by a

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Energy Board Assures Hearing Must Be Held

CAYUGA (Staff) - Many Union Gas consumers in Haldimand, scheduled to have their gas supply cut off, are not aware that the company cannot discontinue the service without a hearing before the Ontario Energy Board.

Haldimand County councillors were told Friday that Union Gas representatives were using "scare tactics" to get people to agree to having their gas service discontinued. They were also told that Union Gas knew it was going to discontinue service in the area as early as 1967.

Reeve Blake Gloyd, of Rainham Township, made the report to council following a meeting two weeks ago in Toronto with Leo Bernier, provincial

minister of natural resources.

Mr. Gloyd said several have complained that gas officials misled them into believing they would not receive compensation unless they signed a company release.

Union Gas has proposed to abandon approximately 110 miles of gas lines in the county as being uneconomical. Almost 1,000 customers will be affected by the move.

Mr. Gloyd, who headed the council committee that met in Toronto, said assurance had been given by Mr. Bernier that the board would decide the cut off date, if any, and also set the compensation to be paid for switching to other fuels.

Financial Study States Texaco May Start Soon

The first recent indication of action on Texaco's property at the former Harewood Acres in Walpole Township came to light in a report last week.

A spokesman is quoted in the Globe and Mail as having stated the construction of the refinery is expected "to start shortly with late 1974 tentatively estimated as the completion date."

According to the report "landscaping is virtually completed and engineering and other preparatory work is proceeding."

The statements were contained in a detailed

investment review prepared by stockbrokers Bell, Gouinlock and Co. Ltd., of Toronto.

Texaco is planning a \$75 million refinery on the 1,300 acre site near Nanticoke, states the report.

When contacted by phone in Montreal by The Record, assistant public relations manager Hugh Quetton,

noted that the statement was made in the investment study, and was not a statement issued by Texaco.

"When Texaco is ready to start, there will be a release issued," he said.

Reeve Gordon Miller, of Walpole Township

noted that if another gas company wants to come in, there is nothing to stop them.

Mr. Gloyd noted, however, that the gas lines would have to come up to energy board specifications.

Reeve Lorna Miller, of Dunnville, said the Union Gas notices read that the gas will be cut off by Aug. 31.

Reeve Keith Richardson, of Dunn Township, said that 100 per cent of the customers would have to sign off in order for the company to discontinue without a hearing.

Mr. Gloyd said the minister had made two points when the committee visited him. One was that the Union Gas is not a public utility as many people seem to think and that each gas line must be economical to operate. If not, then it can be shut down.

Mr. Richardson said the only way to prevent the pull-out would be to prove that the lines are economical to operate. Union Gas has contended it would cost them about \$2 million to put the lines back in energy board approved shape.

Warden John McCoombs said "It looks like we're one year too late to try and hold this."

Mr. Gloyd wondered why the county hadn't been notified of the company's intent back in 1967.

Said Reeve Clayton Smith, of Seneca Township, "That would have defeated their purpose."



Edward Fogarty Jr., 14, of Cheapside is the proud owner of Bear, a Shepherd-Collie-Husky cross, who last Sunday demonstrated his prowess as a swimmer by winning the Gaines Dog Swim, heavy-weight (over 45 pounds) class at the Canadian National Exhibition. This is the third time three-year-old Bear has been entered in the 300 yard swimming event. Last year he placed second. The dog "who just loves to swim" picked up a new wrist watch for his owner and a new leash for himself. (Staff Photo)

Cottagers Reacting Strongly To Letter From Council

Walpole Township cottage owners are reacting strongly to a letter sent to them by Walpole Township regarding a proposed by-law change.

Cottagers will have a chance this Friday night to voice their opinions at a meeting in Nanticoke called by the Township Council.

Council is proposing to change the definition of summer cottage to resort cottage.

The Walpole Township Citizen's Action Association said it was "most disturbed" at the contents of the notice.

In a letter to the editor, one of four received this week regarding the issue, the WTCAA states that the "township fathers are at great pains to give the definition of a resort cottage (in the notice) . . . but they have omitted the definition of summer cottage."

Resort cottage is defined as a detached building used as an occasional resort for recreation . . . by one family, but not occup-

ied continuously or as a principal residence."

The summer cottage definition is for a separate building designed and constructed for human habitation during only the six warm weather months, from April to Septem-

ber, of the same calendar year," followed by a description of what constitutes a summer cottage.

The WTCAA states the change is an "infringement of human

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Charles Cox Named Director of WTCAA

Charles Cox Sr., of R.R. 2 Nanticoke, has been named as the tenth director of the Walpole Township Citizens Action Association.

He was elected at a director's meeting last Friday. Nine directors were elected at the WTCAA annual meeting

last month, leaving the tenth position vacant. Mr. Cox has been actively involved in Walpole Township events since 1945. He was the reeve of the township for 14 years and also deputy reeve for a period.

Mr. Cox was also clerk-treasurer of the township for 11 years,

taking over the post in 1956 until his resignation in 1967 when he retired to his lake-front home in Walpole.

The WTCAA directors have also named a permanent auditor in the person of Herb Cave, also of R.R. 2 Nanticoke.

Mr. Cave moved to the area in 1966, having lived prior to that in Hamilton. He was active in a property owners association on Lake Simcoe for 20 years, holding a variety of offices including that of president and for 17 years was treasurer.

Mr. Cave was a WTCAA director last year.