

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1997

City satisfies some pipeline work

But Six Nation Confederacy still objects to project

BY DONALD CHANG
EXPOSITOR STAFF
Brantford

It was a heated beginning but an almost amiable end when Mayor Chris Friel met with members of the Hodenushonnee Environmental Delegation (HED) representing the Six Nations Confederacy Friday to discuss the status of the northwest sewer crossing.

The meeting was set up by Ken Hill, Onondaga Fire Keeper delegate to the HED.

"From where we stood in 1993 to now I feel like a huge portion of concern has been lifted. We have no argument about environmental degradation here," said Hill following a tour of the construction zone. "We feel the city has a will for a peaceful resolution."

MORE PROBLEMS

However, the problems are far from over according to Friel.

"We've still got a long road to travel," he said.

While the environmental concerns may have been laid to rest, there is the political issue of the protocol agreement which was negotiated between the city and Six Nations elected band council.

The city and the elected council signed an agreement permitting the work to take place. However, the traditional Confederacy government challenges the legitimacy of the protocol.

"If we allow the protocol agreement to stand, we are setting a dangerous precedent. The band council is not the voice of the people, the Confederacy is," said Hill.

A tour of the construction sites by city engineer Alf Gretzinger answered

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CONFEDERACY
REPRESENTATIVE
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many of the concerns Hill brought from the Confederacy, but he wants a new agreement negotiated with the city.

Drilling for the sewer line to service a planned industrial subdivision in the northwest has not started yet, but Gretzinger expects it could start next week.

Piping on the east bank will siphon sewage to a manhole where it will

carry into piping underneath the river, bring it through piping on the other side, and continue on to the sewage treatment plant on Mohawk Road.

The four piping systems — three for sewage, one for water — will be run right through bedrock about five to eight metres underneath the river bed.

A two or three inch space between the piping and the bedrock will be filled with Bentonite, a filler which becomes like concrete when it dries. The piping itself is a high density polyethylene which is fused together with heat.

Gretzinger estimated the construction

project than most others."

Hill will bring his findings back to the Confederacy council today where a decision will be made about the Confederacy's stand on the project.

'NO RIGHT'

"The (elected) band councils have no right to negotiate the control of Native land," said Hill. "They answer to the federal government, we answer to the people."

Hill would not say what would happen should construction continue before a decision from the Confederacy.

"The city has expressed certain things to have a working relationship with the confederacy council," said Hill. "If drilling starts, there are going to be a lot of angry people."

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Mayor Chris Friel (left), Alex Jamieson Sr. (right) and Ken Hill tour the site of sewer crossing.

Photo by M

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NEWS STAFF

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Woman hurt in fight

One woman was arrested and another underwent surgery for severe facial lacerations after a dance-floor disagreement turned violent late Thursday night.

Police said that an altercation between two females on the dance floor of a West Street tavern resulted in one woman being smashed in the face with a bar glass.

The victim underwent surgery at Brantford General Hospital for cuts to her face. Another woman was arrested at the hospital as she was being treated for a cut finger.

Charged with aggravated assault is Rebecca Hill of R6 Hagersville.



Mayor Chris Friel (left), Alex Jamieson Sr. (right) and Ken Hill tour the site of the sewer crossing.

Photo by Miguette

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carry into piping underneath the river, bring it through piping on the other side, and continue on to the sewage treatment plant on Mohawk Road.

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A two or three inch space between the piping and the bedrock will be filled with Bentonite, a filler which becomes like concrete when it dries. The piping itself is a high density polyethylene which is fused together with heat.

Gretzinger estimated the construction to take one or two months once drilling was completed.

→ "There is no need for any environmental concerns," said Gretzinger. "We will be installing monitoring devices and we have been checking the piping regularly."

Gretzinger explained that dye is flushed through the pipe and the volume exiting the system is measured.

"Any fluctuations and alarms start going off," said Gretzinger. "We have put more effort to ensure safety in this

project than most others."

Hill will bring his findings back to the Confederacy council today where a decision will be made about the Confederacy's stand on the project.

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"The city has expressed certain things to have a working relationship with the confederacy council," said Hill. "If drilling starts, there are going to be a lot of angry people."

Meanwhile, Friel says he was hoping to have the issue resolved by Nov. 1

following meeting with the Confederacy council and added construction has stopped.

"Construction will not be on a schedule any longer as if this is a no-go."

"It's a delicate matter. We like to see a resolution to the problems; we want the protocol agreement to be reached with the city, the band council and the Confederacy."

Friel added he hopes to have the issue resolved by Nov. 1. "I have already had a meeting with Wellington Staats and the Confederacy council. Nothing is happening, more meetings are being held with them (band council) to uphold it."

Still some space for extra on set of TV's Due South

EXPOSITOR STAFF

Budding stars have another chance to take part in the filming of a television show episode in Brantford.

Joanna Polley, the casting director for Due South, is still searching for a few warm bodies for the filming of a Due South episode at Cockshutt Park next week.

The dates that still need to be filled are Oct. 6, 7, and 9. If you are inter-

ested, a voice mail message will be set up where you should leave your name, phone number and when you are available.

Interested parties should call (416) 925-0385.

The shooting dates are Oct. 6 and Thursday will be at noon on Tuesday about midnight. Filming starts in the early morning and ends in the early afternoon.

LOCAL NEWS

OCTOBER 4, 1997

THE EXPOSITOR

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Photo by Miguette Eivers, For The Expositor

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Meanwhile, Friel says he was hoping to have the issue resolved by Nov. 1

following meetings with the Confederacy council and city council, but he added construction will not be stopped.

"Construction will continue. We are on a schedule and we will be proceeding as if this is a normal job," he said.

"It's a delicate situation but I would like to see a resolution to avoid any future problems; we will not renegotiate the protocol agreement."

Friel added he hopes a resolution can be reached with all three parties; the city, the band council and the Confederacy.

"I have already spoken to Chief Wellington Staats about what has been happening, more out of courtesy than anything. We made a commitment with them (band council) and we will uphold it."

Still some space for extra