



## Staff Report

**Report Title: Municipal Drain Status Update October 2023**

**Prepared By: Ken McCallum**

**Department: DRAINS**

**Date: Oct. 2, 2023**

**Report Number: DRAIN-2023-10-15**

**File Number:**

**C11 DRAINS 23**

**Attachments: None**

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### **Recommendation:**

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report No. DRAIN-2023-10-15 prepared by Ken McCallum, Drainage Superintendent.

### **Background:**

Several Municipal Drainage projects are in various stages of completion. This report is to provide the Committee with an update on each drain in progress.

### **Discussion:**

#### **Hamilton Municipal Drain:**

K. Smart & Associates Limited are appointed under Section 78 of the Drainage Act to make improvements to the Hamilton Municipal Drain. The Engineer has been working closely with the landowners with a design to enclose a portion of the open drain. The ditch enclosure has been designed however, there are some environmental issues that will need to be addressed if the enclosure goes ahead. The Engineer is currently working on setting up a meeting with Ministry of Natural Resources and the Conservation Authority to determine how the environmental issues can be addressed. Once these environmental issues are addressed the engineer may move towards producing a final report to Council.

#### **Gaunt-Laidlaw Municipal Drain**

An onsite meeting was held on July 12, 2022, with K. Smart & Associates and the landowners of the watershed to determine the scope of work required. An information meeting was held on April 12, 2023, where the Engineer presented his findings, proposed design, and provided landowners with estimated assessment

costs. The Engineer presented his report in which Council decided to refer the report back to the Engineer for changes to the design and the report. The Engineer will make the changes necessary and present the report to Council for consideration this fall 2023.

### **Vandipenbeek Municipal Drain**

July 12, 2022, Headway Engineering Limited held an onsite meeting at the Ripley Community Center to discuss the current issues that the landowners are having with the drain. An information meeting was recently held on April 27, 2023, where the Engineer presented his findings, proposed design, and provided landowners with estimated assessment costs. The Engineer will be finalizing his report which Council may expect to see in fall 2023.

### **Black Creek Municipal Drain**

Beavers are in the Drain and are being trapped. The file has been transferred to RJ Burnside & Associates.

A public meeting was held on Tuesday April 11, 2023, at 10:00 to discuss what information has been collected along with some preliminary design ideas with landowners to find out the scope of work needed to address the ongoing issues landowners are experiencing. The meeting was not well attended. Municipal staff are working with the engineer appointed to set up a public meeting in the near future.

### **Park Street & Railway Street Municipal Drains**

RJ Burnside & Associates Ltd. have been appointed under section 78 of the Drainage Act, to improve the Park Street Municipal Drain. Council has accepted the Report provided by the Engineer and gave the By-Law first and Second reading. The appeal period has lapsed, and the engineer has tendered the project. One bid was received, for a fall of 2024 construction period. This bid was over the engineer's estimated costs. Staff are recommending that the bid be rejected, and the project be retendered in the spring. Should Council wish to consider the bid appropriate notice would need to be provided to impacted residents, prior to Council consideration.

### **Maintenance Works**

#### **Ackert Municipal Drain**

A drain maintenance request has been made to remove trees and blockages from the Ackert drain downstream of Karishea Ave. Landowners upstream of the work will be assessed costs for the Maintenance work.

#### **Gaunt Municipal Drain**

Drain cleanout in Lots 29, 30, & 31 Concession 2, Kinloss- Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) approvals have been received. The drain is classified as an 'F' class drain in which there are no requirements for Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) approval. A contractor has been contacted to facilitate the work. DFO timing windows restrictive to maintenance work is from March 15<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Saugeen Valley has indicated to municipal staff as well as specified within their approvals that they do not allow any municipal drain maintenance on open drains after September 15<sup>th</sup> for any municipal drain no matter the classification set out by the regulations. The maintenance work period for any municipal drain located within the Saugeen Valley watershed is between July 15<sup>th</sup> and September 15<sup>th</sup> (2 months out of a 12-month year).

### **Stewart Municipal Drain**

A request has been made for a clean out downstream of Concession A, Pt. Lot 60, Parcel ID (9-121-01). A landowner has requested that a portion of Concession 12 roadside ditch be cleaned out to relieve his private lands from flooding. The drain is an Unrated municipal drain which will require DFO to complete a site-specific review of the drain. Awaiting Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) & DFO approvals to facilitate work. Drain maintenance will not commence until summer of 2024.

### **Wilken Municipal Drain**

Large overgrown maple trees located within Pt. Lot 33, Concession 3, Huron, have the Wilken municipal drain plugged. Municipal staff are working to assess out costs appropriately to landowners in the same manner stated in the engineer's report.

### **Walden Municipal Drain**

The outlet pipe for the Walden drain has deteriorated causing damage to the tile drain and erosion to adjacent landowner properties. The Drian was fixed in March 2023 and Municipal staff are working to assess costs to the contributing landowners within the Walden Municipal drain watershed.

### **Pollock Municipal Drain**

Large overgrown maple trees located within Pt. Lot 10, Concession 9, Huron, have the Pollock municipal drain plugged. The work was completed, Municipal staff are working to assess out costs appropriately to landowners in the same manner stated in the engineer's report.

### **Sutton Municipal Drain**

A request has been made for the Sutton drain. The Sutton tile drain outlet is plugged with Willow tree roots that have overgrown along the Sutton Main drain open channel. The tile is also suspected to be plugged with tree roots along Sideroad 5. Staff are working to set up an initial meeting with landowners to discuss the issues and plan for maintenance after the crop is off Lot 5 Concession 8, Huron.

### **Financial Impacts:**

The cost of constructing, maintaining and/or repairing municipal drains is assessed to all the landowners withing the drain watershed depicted in the last engineer's report as outlined in the *Drainage Act, 1990*. The Township is responsible for any Assessments to all Municipal lands and roads as determined by the engineer.

### **Strategic Alignment / Link:**

We are a prosperous community that continues to grow in a sustainable manner while being environmentally conscious and good stewards of our natural environment.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

Ken McCallum, Drainage Superintendent Huron-Kinloss.

**Report Approved By:**

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer