



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Staff Report

Report Title: Municipal Drain Status Update April 2024

Date: Apr. 3, 2024

Report Number: DRAIN-2024-04-3

Department: Drains

File Number: C11 DRAIN 24

Prepared By: Ken McCallum

**Attachments: correspondence Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority,
Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol**

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report DRAIN-2024-04-3 prepared by Ken McCallum, Drainage Superintendent

Background:

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/Analysis/Overview:

Capital Works

Hamilton Municipal Drain:

K. Smart & Associates Limited are appointed under Section 78 of the Drainage Act to make improvements to the Hamilton Municipal Drain. Municipal staff spoke with Landowners in January 2024 who have expressed concerns with the proposed encloser and have changed opinions on the scope of work. Staff have been collaborating with the Engineer to address the concerns of the landowners involved.

A meeting was held on February 7, 2024, to discuss design considerations with Ducks Unlimited who are planning to restore and enhance the pond located at the downstream portion of the drain. Design considerations would allow the municipality to control the normal water levels of the pond suitable for upstream landowners' drainage requirements while allowing Ducks Unlimited to manage any future maintenance or restoration to the pond below specified water levels.

The open channel of the Hamilton drains through lots 8-9, Concession 1, requires bank restoration along a large length of the drain as well as ditch bottom cleanout. Municipal staff continue to correspond with the engineer to produce a report to council in the fall.

Gaunt-Laidlaw Municipal Drain

The Engineer's report was referred to the Engineer by Council for changes to the design and report. Municipal staff have followed up with the engineer to make the necessary changes required and expect to provide the revised report to Council in Spring of 2024 for consideration.

Vandiepenbeek Municipal Drain

July 12, 2022, Headway Engineering Limited held an onsite meeting at the Ripley Community Center to discuss the current issues that landowners are having with the drain. The Engineer presented his findings, proposed design, and provided landowners with estimated assessment costs at a meeting held on April 27, 2023. The Engineer's Report was accepted by Council on October 16, 2023. The project has been awarded and with an expected completion by fall 2024.

Black Creek Municipal Drain

A public meeting held Tuesday April 11, 2023, provided landowners information collected to date, some preliminary design ideas and an opportunity to discuss the scope of work needed to address the ongoing issues landowners are experiencing. The meeting was not well attended. Municipal staff are collaborating with the engineer appointed to continue with the design to present to landowners at an information meeting in spring of 2024.

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 passed By-law No. 2023-38 and By-law No. 2024-03 to accept the Engineer's report and award the construction tender, respectively. Construction has started on the Park Street drain beginning with tree removal and the pipe installation. Cleanout of the open portion of the Fair drain cannot be undertaken until June 15th as per Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA)'s in water work timing windows and erosion control policies.

Bruce Beach Drain (Phase I)

Staff are working with Birnam to have all outstanding work completed in a timely manner this spring and in accordance with the engineer's report. Remaining deficiencies in the project include fine grading, hydroseeding, rip-rap adjustment, and some structure adjustments.

The Township has retained approximately 3% of the contract amount as a maintenance holdback. To release this holdback, the Township's designated representative must verify the satisfactory completion of all remaining deficient work.

Bruce Beach Drain (Phase II)

The SVCA has completed a review of the dynamic beach study report. Headway Engineering has addressed all SVCA's concerns regarding the dynamic beach study report and are now finalizing the proposed design to present to landowners at the next information meeting.

Clark Creek Municipal Drain

Construction of the Clark Creek Municipal Drain started in summer 2023. Construction is completed except for site 'J'. Construction at site 'J' includes 210m of channel realignment, construction of two riffles consisting of approx. 14,000m cu. of riffle stone to be installed, 135m of vegetated riprap for bank protection, construct 92m of laneway and cut/lower 0.4m out of the old cofferdam. Construction to site 'J' will be undertaken between July 15th and September 15th as per Fisheries and Ocean's Canada (DFO) & SVCA's in water timing windows and erosion control policy.

Maintenance Works

Constraints for timing on maintenance work in the SVCA watershed

Saugeen Valley has indicated to Staff and specified within their approvals that they do not permit municipal drain maintenance work on open drains after September 15th for any municipal drain, regardless of the drain classification set out by the regulations. The maintenance work period for any municipal drain located within the Saugeen Valley watershed is between July 15th and September 15th (2 months out of a 12-month year). Availability of contractors to perform work, and the timing of permit issuance impact the scheduling of maintenance work to respond to landowner concerns.

Ackert Municipal Drain

A drain maintenance request has been received 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

A request was received for 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 engaged to facilitate the work. DFO timing windows restrict maintenance work from March 15th to July 15th.

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 private lands from flooding. All approvals have been obtained. Drain maintenance will be completed between July 15th, and September 15th, to adhere to DFO and SVCA's timing window for in water work and erosion control policy.

Sutton Municipal Drain

Maintenance has been conducted on the Sutton Municipal drain branches 'A,' 'B' & 'E.' Tree roots were obstructing the outlets of branches 'A' & 'E' and obstructing the tile on road crossings along sideroad five for branch 'E.' Branch 'B' was plugged with willow tree roots on Pt. Lot 6, Concession 9, Huron. The drain was fixed from the East

limits of the Driveway past the East property line 20'. Property regrading and seeding is proposed for spring 2024.

Reavie Municipal Drain

1 to 1.5 ft of sediment has been observed in the entire length of the Reavie drain. Approximately 3,500 meters of bottom cleanout is required to have the drain function as it was originally designed again. Brushing will be necessary at the drain outlet and along various parts of the drain for access to complete the work. All approvals have been obtained. Maintenance will be completed between July 15th, and September 15th, to adhere to DFO and SVCA's timing window for in water work and erosion control policy.

Ripley Drain # 2 Municipal Drain

Failed sections of the Ripley Municipal Drain have formed sinkholes alongside Bruce Rd. 6 and in lots 18,19, Concession 7, Huron. A catch basin has eroded and is need of repair within the County Road allowance. Locates have received except the Gas line clearance. A contractor is expected to complete repairs in April.

Ripley Storm Sewer 1947

On December 15th, 2023, municipal staff were onsite with CT Environmental to Camera, flush and remove tree roots with their root cutter within the Ripley Storm Sewer 1947. CT Environmental were unable to cut through the roots within the drain. The location was marked at the obstruction. Staff are working to excavate the location and fix the tree root problem.

John-Fair Municipal Drain

Sediment has accumulated in the ditch bottom over the past several years and needs to be removed to improve flows at Concession 12 Road. Approximately 1,000m of bottom cleanout is required to have the drain function properly again. Minor brushing is also required along the top of bank and side slopes to access the drain. Approvals were received by August 2023; however, Staff was unable to have a contractor mobilized before September 15th, which is SVCA's timing window closure for in water work according to the sediment control policy. Staff have obtained an extension for the approval to complete the work in 2024. Work will be conducted between July 15th and September 15th to adhere to both DFO and SVCA's timing windows for in water work and the erosion control policy.

Changes to Section 28 and 29 Regulations of the Conservation Authority

Proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27 include an exemption from paragraph 2 of subsection 28(1) of the Act, for drainage activities:

- (e) the maintenance or repair of municipal drains as described in, and conducted in accordance with the mitigation requirements set out in the Drainage Act and the Conservation Authorities Act Protocol, approved by the Minister and available on a government of Ontario website, as it may be amended from time to time;

The proposed amendments can be found in full here :

[O. Reg. 41/24: PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES, EXEMPTIONS AND PERMITS \(ontario.ca\)](#)

Staff are working closely with Conservation Authorities, and the Drainage Superintendents Association of Ontario to determine what impacts this will have on regular routine Maintenance & Repair activities for municipal drains.

Financial Impacts:

The cost of constructing, maintaining and/or repairing municipal drains is assessed to all the landowners within 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.

Performance Measurement:

N/A

Strategic Area:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embrace a thriving rural lifestyle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Municipal Service Delivery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for Inclusive Growth | <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure Financial Stability |

Strategic Goal: Manage assets and infrastructure

Respectfully Submitted By:

Ken McCallum, Drainage Superintendent Huron-Kinloss

Report Approved By:

Jodi MacArthur, Chief Administrative Officer