



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Staff Report

Report Title: Municipal Drain Status Update May 2024

Date: May. 6, 2024

Report Number: CLK-2024-05-23

Department: Legislative Services

File Number: C11 DRA 24

Prepared By: Ken McCallum

Attachments: None

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report DRAIN-2024-05-23 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, and a follow up site visit on April 23, 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 by mid-July 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 commence after the July 15th fisheries timing window opens.

Thompson Lamont Deyell Municipal Drain

The Municipality of Morris-Turnberry has received a notice of request for a drain improvement. The Council of Morris-Turnberry has appointed Streamline Engineering to prepare a report for replacement of a culvert that is part of the Thompson Lamont Deyell drain. Lands within the Township of Huron-Kinloss contribute to the watershed and shall be assessed costs. Council will need to pass a by-law once the report has been considered to raise costs for the construction of the work.

Maintenance Works

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 mid-summer.

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 after July 15th.

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 after July 15th.

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. A contractor completed the repairs in April and staff are working to assess costs out to upstream landowners.

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 after July 15th.

Carrick Municipal Drain

The Carrick municipal tile drain has failed and created a sinkhole in a resident's yard within the village of Whitechurch. Investigations revealed that the Carrick municipal drain open portion needs repair and maintenance. The open portion of the drain has become overgrown with trees which have caused obstructions in the drain. Sediment has built up causing the Municipal drain tile outlet to be submerged under water. Staff are working to obtain approval from DFO. A permit will be required from the Conservation Authority as the work will commence within a regulated wetland area.

Lott Municipal Drain

Beavers are located in Lot 1 & 2, Concession 1, Kinloss in the reaches of the Lott Municipal Drain. A trapper has been notified to remove the beaver from the drain.

A. McDonald Municipal Drain

A request has been made to cleanout a section of the A. McDonald Award Municipal Drain. The Landowner of Lot 2, Concession 2, Huron would like approximately 450m

of the open drain maintained on his property. Staff are working to obtain approvals from DFO to complete in water work and have notified the Conservation Authority of the work to ensure permits are not required as work is outside the regulated wetland area. Maintenance is tentatively set to conduct after July 15th.

Black Creek SW Municipal Drain (Hayes Lake Beaver's)

Beavers are in the Black Creek municipal drain Southwest section blocking the outlet to Hayes Lake raising water levels the are encroaching Hayes Lake Ave. A trapper has been notified to remove the beaver.

Carruthers Municipal Drain

The Carruthers drain was constructed under By-Law 7-1965. The outlet pipe of the Carruthers municipal drain is plugged with tree roots where it enters the Ackert drain. Trees are located along the drain corridor and the drain is expected to have several blockages at various locations. Repairs to the tile drain are required to have the drain function properly again.

Regulation Proposal

A regulation proposal is available for public comment on the Environment Registry of Ontario at posting #019-8320.

Sections of the Conservation Authorities Act coming into effect on April 1, 2024, include provisions enabling the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry (the Minister) to:

- i) issue an order to prevent a conservation authority from issuing a permit and decide on a permit application in the place of the conservation authority, and
- ii) to review a conservation authority, permit decision at the request of an applicant.

This proposed regulation would set out the limited circumstances under which the Minister may use these powers as circumstances where the proposed development activity or other activity pertains to specified matters of provincial interest.

Additionally, it proposes a transparent process for individuals to request the use of these powers and sets out the information that would be submitted to the Minister as part of such a request.

Staff have no objections to the proposed regulation changes as the amendments provide clarity to the process and matters the Minister would consider.

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:

- Embrace a thriving rural lifestyle
- Prepare for Inclusive Growth
- Enhance Municipal Service Delivery
- Ensure Financial Stability

Strategic Goal: Protect, promote and restore our natural environment

Respectfully Submitted By:

Ken McCallum, Drainage Superintendent

Report Approved By:

Jodi MacArthur, Chief Administrative Officer