

Subject: Rural Water & Sewer Servicing - Residents' Contributions**APPROVALS:****Annette Antoniak**_____
Director_____
Chief Administrative Officer**Recommended Motion:**

THAT Administration be directed to undertake a lot by lot assessment in Janvier, Conklin, Saprae Creek Estates, Gregoire Lake Estates and Anzac; and

THAT Administration bring forward a plan and funding request (based on the results of the assessment) specific to on-site service connections prior to the proposed 2020 budget workshops that includes the following elements:

- Municipality fund the entire installation of on-site service connections from lot lines to residential homes for existing residents served by the new system
- The funding program be available to existing residents for a five-year period
- Residents who are served by the new RWSS system be required to hire their own certified contractor to complete the on-site service connection
- Existing residents served by the new Rural Water and Sewer Servicing system be asked for \$16,000 (\$10,000 in Saprae Creek) as service connection fee
- A long-term payment option for the service connection fee

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council an update on the Rural Water and Sewer Servicing (RWSS) program to address the request of Administration to return with more accurate on-site service connection estimates.

Background:

The first step in the RWSS program is to build the force mains, lift stations, and additional infrastructure needed to provide piped water and sewer systems to the rural communities. The next step is to connect our infrastructures from lot lines to residential homes (on-site service connections).

The current budget for the RWSS program includes the pre-design, detailed design and construction of infrastructure on Municipal land. In addition development of standards for on-site service connections is included in the current funding. Once a lot by lot assessment has been completed, Administration will be seeking funding for construction

of the on-site service connections.

Since Administration's last presentation to Council, Administration sought out cost estimates from contractors. These estimates came back higher than anticipated.

Administration has also visited all RWSS communities to engage the residents on this topic and seek their feedback and concerns with the program. The common themes across the hamlets are:

- The proposed contribution of \$16,000 (\$10,000 in Saprae Creek) is cost prohibitive to some residents
- The resident contribution should not exceed the proposed \$16,000 (\$10,000 in Saprae Creek)
- The resident perception is that their contribution includes their on-site service connection
- The approach to each lot should be unique and detailed on an individual basis
- Concerns about maintenance costs after warranty period has expired
- Timelines to connect to the system under the current program
- Concerns about how and by whom the work will be done on private property

Brief Overview of the RWSS program:

Design and Construction for Rural Water and Sewer Servicing Program is taking place simultaneously. The work in each community is divided into various contracts. Below is an update on construction of the water and sewer up to property lines.

- Conklin: Contract #1: Sanitary Sewer on Northland Drive is completed
Contract #3: Construction of water and sewer up to property line along with road reconstruction on Pine Lane and Poplar Dr. - in progress with completion date Nov 2020.
May 2019 - May 2021= anticipated date of on-site service connection
- Janvier: Contract #1: Construction of water and sewer up to the property line along with road reconstruction - in progress and will be completed by July 2019
May 2020 = anticipated date of on-site service connection
- Saprae Creek Estates: Contract #1: Construction of water and sewer up to the property line along with road reconstruction started and will be completed by Dec 2019
May 2020 = anticipated date of on-site sewer service connection
- Gregoire Lake Estates: Contract #1: Construction of water and sewer up to the

property line along with road reconstruction, construction in progress; scheduled to be completed by Oct 2019
May 2020 = anticipated date of on-site service connection

Anzac: Contract #2: Construction of water and sewer up to the property line along with road reconstruction - in progress with a completion date Nov 2020
May 2020 = anticipated date of on-site service connection

Budget/Financial Implications:

- Total residents' contributions would be approximately \$13M
- RWSS program would require additional funding for construction of the on-site service connections starting in 2020
- Budget request for service connections will not be needed until 2019

Rationale for Recommendation:

Service connections need to be affordable, and the cost of connecting equitable, for a critical mass of residents to connect to the RWSS system. With almost \$200M committed to the program, and minimal population growth expected in the areas to be served, success and cost effectiveness of the system will be measured by how many residents connect.

There are many un-answered questions left regarding on-site service connections. The lot by lot assessment will allow Administration to get detailed information on the scope of work needed by the Municipality per lot and make strategic decisions. During the assessment Administration will be looking for:

- Distance of pumps/tanks from the roadway
- Electrical panel capacity
- Pump/tank location to the home (inside, outside, front, back)
- Impact on private properties (driveways, landscaping, secondary buildings)

In addition, creating a plan for on-site service connections will allow Administration to iron out the method of which we can collect on-site service connection fees, the duration of the program, and the responsibilities of both the homeowner and the Municipality.

Strategic Priorities:

Rural and Indigenous Communities and Partnerships

Attachments:

- 1. Rural Water and Sewer Servicing PowerPoint Presentation**
- 2. RWSS Construction Maps**
- 3. RWSS Engagement Summary**
- 4. Chronology of Council Resolutions**