

Staff Report to Council

Title: Tiverton Water Supply Report Number: Environmental Services-2023-44

Director: Infrastructure & **Manager:** Environmental Services

Development

Meeting Date: Date to be considered by Council:

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Recommendation:

That Council support the recommendation brought forward to begin an Environmental Assessment process for the review of the Tiverton Water Supply, and

Further that Council supports a 2024 pre-budget approval in the amount of \$200,000 to be funded from Water Reserve RF68 for this project.

Executive Summary:

The delivery of safe potable drinking water is vital to all residents connected to a Municipality of Kincardine Drinking Water source. The need to conduct an Environmental Assessment on the Tiverton Drinking Water allows all stakeholders options and considerations for future deliberations. Concerns that will be reviewed within the Environmental Assessment relate to future growth, development, and expansion of the system; the quality, quantity, and treatment considerations needed to continue to deliver safe drinking water; the financial considerations and resources needed to deliver services, and the Standard of Care needed under Regulations and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Strategic Priorities:

D.15-Serve, communicate, collaborate and engage with the community to build trust and confidence in municipal services, Council and staff

Financial Considerations:

A pre-budget approval for the project of \$200,000 dollars, which is being funded through Water Reserve RF68 has been requested. This would allow for a complete Environmental Assessment to be completed, including collecting data, consultation review, stakeholder

involvement and process, public meetings, design criteria and options for consideration upon completion.

Policy:

N/A

Context and Background Information:

An Environmental Assessment provides Council and all partners and stakeholders within the project scope the opportunity to provide context and comment on the wellbeing of the project. The Tiverton Drinking Water System currently consists of two groundwater well sources. Briar Hill Well's #1 & #2 are located at 36 Conquergood Avenue, and the Dent Well located at 6 Smith Street.

Briar Hill #1 was drilled in 1975 and Briar Hill #2 was drilled in 2006. The Dent well was drilled in 2003. These wells are all considered non-gudi for treatment purposes.

As identified in the Water and Wastewater Master Plan completed in 2023, the municipality needs to review options for water supply for the community of Tiverton, as low and high growth figures identify the possibility of expansion and need for alternative sources. Tiverton continues to see development opportunities brought forward, and while difficult to project the growth of these developments or timelines as to when they are built, the Municipality is looking to start a proactive approach to being prepared.

Through an EA process consideration could be given to several options to review water sources for Tiverton. These options could include:

- a) Stop Development opportunities within Tiverton to alleviate demand for the current wells and drinking water system.
- b) Re-habilitation work on the existing well sites and review of possible step testing to allow for additional consideration of withdrawal from these sites.
- c) Look for an alternative well source within the local limits of Tiverton and develop an additional well source that could be used for future demand.
- d) Connecting to the existing pipeline that was installed in 2003. When this pipeline was installed, consideration was given that a future connection to the Tiverton Drinking Water System may be required.

Overall, once completed the project will outline the future water supply of the Tiverton system. In conjunction with this, staff will be able to ensure or invest in treatment needs, install supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) throughout the sites for better monitoring, and provide safe potable water with improved monitoring and redundancy for future considerations.

Existing assets have been identified within the Municipal capital plan in excess of \$500,000 for the Briar Hill and Dent well sites. To ensure Council is making well guided decisions in order to maintain current customer needs and to assess best alternatives to support development opportunities, staff are asking to proceed with an EA to help guide those outcomes.

Consultation Overview:

With any EA the process consists of communication with several stakeholders within the project. This would include Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks, Conservation Authorities, Source Water Protection Group, Local First Nations groups. The EA process allows for public consultation for comments and consideration, as well as public information sessions.

The Municipality would also work with its engineering firms to develop plans, rely on their expertise for review and consideration of process, and ultimately oversee the completion if any form of project moves forward.

Additional resources may be required from groups that specialize in hydrogeology to either review previous collected data or conduct new testing for the possibility of alternative well supply.

Origin:

Water & Wastewater Master Plan.

Implementation Considerations:

Council is being asked to consider pre-budget approval for this project. While timelines on these projects are often hard to predict, based on Councils' consideration some of these projects could have timelines of 9-24 months minimum. These timelines would align well with the year end for budget considerations and allow staff adequate time to establish budget needs and capital considerations.

Recent funding opportunities have also been announced by the government, and having jobs shovel ready may possibly lead to funding success.

Risk Analysis:

The Tiverton Drinking Water System needs a strategic direction for future considerations. These considerations will be encompassed within the EA process. The highlighted options all provide consideration that will need to be given to water conditions, treatment applications, SCADA considerations, and site upgrades.

Projected growth is also hard to determine, having an EA completed will establish acceptable conditions and limits, and better advise Council of development limitations.

Finally, investing in the EA process allows improvements to our current sites, equipment, accessibility and follows the Standard of Care exercised by Council to deliver safe drinking water.

Attachments: N/A

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