



Administration and Operations Committee Report

To: To the Chair and Members of the Administration and Operations Committee
From: Alex Davidson, Director of Environmental Services
Date: December 13, 2022
Report #: RPT-0295-22
Subject: Water Operational Plan Element 14 - Review and Provision of Water Infrastructure
Purpose: For Information

Recommendation

Whereas Element 14 “Review and Provision of Infrastructure” of the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS) requires that an Infrastructure Review Report be presented to Council, as owners of the Drinking Water System, for consideration during budget deliberations.

And whereas matters of this report are contained in the proposed 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets to be considered by Council as part of the 2023 Budget deliberations.

That this report be received by Council for consideration during budget deliberations.

Strategic Plan Priority

Strategic Priority 4 - Reliable Infrastructure

Impacts and Mitigation

Social Impacts – Proactive planning and budgeting will result in the continued provision of safe drinking water to the consumers from the County of Brant’s (the County’s) five (5) municipal drinking water systems (Airport, Cainsville, Mt. Pleasant, Paris & St. George).

Environmental Impacts - Proactive planning and budgeting minimizes impacts of the County’s drinking water systems on the environment. It also eliminates potential adverse impacts of not having a robust municipal drinking water system for the larger communities in the County.

Economic Impacts – Matters of this report are contained in the proposed 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets to be considered by Council as part of the 2023 Budget deliberations.

Proactive planning and budgeting results in predictable and affordable water supply for the consumers of the County's municipal drinking water systems. It also supports residential growth and creates a positive asset to retain existing business and help attract new.

Report

Background

Element 14 – “Review and Provision of Infrastructure” of the County's Operational Plan prepared in accordance with the Provincial DWQMS provides a procedure for an annual review of the municipal drinking water system infrastructure to ensure that adequate infrastructure necessary to operate and maintain the County's municipal water systems is available as required. Specifically, the Director of Environmental Services (Director) and Environmental Services Manager (Manager) are to carry out a thorough review of the infrastructure and report their findings to Council for consideration during annual budget deliberations. A copy of Element 14 from the County's Operational Plan is attached for reference. (Note that Element 14 as attached has been updated to reflect the change in title of the Water Operations Superintendent to Environmental Services Manager and creation of the new position Environmental Services Superintendent that was effective early September 2022. The 2022 process spans the former and current version of the document. To mitigate confusion, reference in this report to Environmental Services Manager is also reference to Water Operations Superintendent.)

In addition to considerations of robust infrastructure and resources being available to provide sufficient safe drinking water on a day-to-day basis, the review must also consider Element 8 – “Risk Assessment Outcomes”. These considerations are forward looking to mitigate adverse impacts to water supply in case of hazardous events such as infrastructure and/or equipment failure, vandalism, damage by accident, extreme weather events, climate change, so on and so forth. Considerations of Element 8 identifies: potential hazardous events; potential impacts of each event on the water supply system; available monitoring, control measures and critical control points; emergency procedures and/or contingency plans; and ranks the risk associated with each event. A copy of Element 8 from the County's Operational Plan is attached for reference.

Analysis

The Director, Manager, and Water Technologist formally met on July 19, 2022, to satisfy the requirement of Element 14 to hold a meeting. In actual practice, the infrastructure is constantly being evaluated for fitness and capability to meet the water supply requirements of the consumers. Action is continually taken as appropriate. A specific task of the Director and Manager is considering matters for the preparation of the proposed annual Operating and Capital Budgets. It captures a snapshot in time and provides a basis for future planning.

In addition to considerations by Water Division staff, to coordinate interdepartmental considerations, consultation was held with the General Manager of Operations, Director of Infrastructure Services, Director of Roads, Solid Waste/Wastewater Operations Manager, Project Engineer, Capital Projects Manager, Administrative Coordinator, Director of Development Engineering, and members of Treasury (Budgets and Purchasing). A formal meeting was held on July 20, 2022, supplemented with ongoing informal discussion and consultation.

The results of the considerations for the 2023 budget process are summarized in the attached chart, “Summary of 2022 Annual Review of Water Infrastructure”.

Summary and Recommendations

In accordance with Element 14 “Review and Provision of Infrastructure” of the County’s Operational Plan, staff have carried out a thorough review of the municipal water supply infrastructure to ensure its integrity and appropriateness for the continuation of efficient and economically affordable supply to existing and planned new consumers. The matters have been considered in preparation of the 2023 Operations and Capital Budgets.

Results of the review are summarized in this report to be presented to Committee and Council for reference during 2023 budget deliberations.

Attachments

1. Element 14 “Review and Provision of Infrastructure”, Rev. 13, Sep 22\22 as excerpt from the Water Division’s Operational Plan
2. Element 8 “Risk Assessment Outcomes”, Rev. 18, Oct 19\22 as excerpt from the Water Division’s Operational Plan
3. Chart showing Summary of 2022 Annual Review of Water Infrastructure

Reviewed By

R. Walton, General Manager of Operations

Copied To

1. M. Biggin, Environmental Services Manager
2. D. Stevenson, Water Technologist
3. M. Eby, Director of Infrastructure
4. H. Mifflin, Director of Finance, Treasurer
5. H. Bailey, Manager of Accounting & Budgets
6. V. Graves, Senior Accountant

By-law and/or Agreement

By-law Required	No
Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and /or Clerk	No