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Date: January 22, 2018
To: Mayor and Council
Author: Kevin Girard, Manager of Municipal Services
RE: 2018 Road 11 Water Works Petition
Report No.: MS 2018-01

AIM

To advise Council of the request for municipal water supply to residents of Road 11 through the Town's Water Works Petition Process.

BACKGROUND

A new request to commence a Water Works Petition has been filed with Administration following the termination of the 2017 Road 11 Water Works Petition from report MS 2017-58. In response, a petition was prepared by Corporate Services in conformance with the Town's Petition Policy. A map of the petitioning properties can be found in the attached, you will note that the running line has differed from the 2017 Road 11 Water Works Petition.

Included in the petition documentation were the provisions listed below:

- a) the area be defined as a waterworks area with the installation of water mains, service connections as required;
- b) the private water service connections be installed by property owners subject to all necessary permits obtained from the Town prior to installation; and
- c) an Engineer's Report be prepared to determine the feasibility and cost to the property owners within the above mentioned area.
- d) The attached owners agree that should the Engineer's Report not be accepted by the persons signing the petition, that any and all costs accumulated will be apportioned equally between those persons that have signed the document.

Received by the clerk on January 22, 2018 was the circulated petition with 10 signatures out of the 16 potential benefitting properties representing overall participation of 62.5%.

As per the conditions listed in the current Water Works Policy, a majority of properties listed on the petition (Greater than 50%) must be present in order to submit the petition for Council approval to the next step.

DISCUSSION

As per the current Water Works Policy, Council may authorize the engineer to proceed with the preparation of the construction plans and tendering of the water works after the engineers report has been completed. The Policy and Process flowchart can be found in the attached.

Should Council agree to proceed in providing the benefitting property owners with an engineer's estimate, the Municipal Services Department will continue to retain RC Spencer for this project since there is still a valid contract agreement and all design was completed by this firm from the 2017 Water Works Petition. This will result in lower costs to the property owners in both the engineer's report and design modifications.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

To become a leader in sustainable infrastructure renewal and development.
Promote a safe community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

As per the Water Works Policy, the petitioners are responsible for the costs associated with the engineer's estimate should the project be voted down, which for this project would be \$750.00 or \$75 per petitioning property owner, not including HST.

Should the potential benefitting property owners vote down paying the costs associated with constructing the proposed watermain, all benefitting property owners would be responsible to pay for the full costs of the project equally.

As part of the 2017 Road 11 Water Works Petition, Council agreed to cover the costs of fire suppression as follows as part of resolution 470-2017:

Council approve the cost of fire hydrants for the Road 11 Waterline Extension Project at an estimated cost of \$60,000 as a pre-approved expense from the 2018 municipal budget.

Should Council agree to cover the costs in the same manner for the 2018 Road 11 Water Works Petition, the approximate costs associated with the new running line is approximately \$35,000.

In discussions with the Town of Kingsville's fire chief, water supply is important for not only protection of property but also for the protection of human life including fire staff. Without adequate water and a reliable supply, crews working at a fire (especially in today's types of structure and contents fires) are put in increased danger. One of our strategic plan items is to "promote a safe community" which also includes our responders as well as the residents. Times have changed and we should make every effort to provide an adequate water supply.

As part of the correspondence attached to the petition, a request was made to reduce the assessment to vacant properties included in this petition to 25% upon installation of the watermain with the balance (75%) to be paid upon water service connection. Historically, the Town has agreed to reduce the assessment upon installation to vacant properties by 50% with the balance (50%) to be paid upon water service connection.

It should be noted that should Council agree to reduce the initial assessment to 25%, this will represent expense to the water department. Council will be setting a new precedent, which could affect other projects where the number of vacant properties could be greater, and the cost to the water department would increase. In addition, this could also pose an issue for all past local improvements, drainage projects and developments that have used the 50% assessment method established by the Town and may request a 25% rebate based on this precedent.

CONSULTATIONS

RC Spencer Associates
Municipal Services
Corporate Services
Financial Services
Fire Department

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1) Authorize Municipal Services to retain RC Spencer to prepare the engineer's report for the benefitting property owners' consideration;
- 2) Approve funding of fire suppression in the amount of \$35,000; and
- 3) Direct Administration to assess benefitting vacant land 50% upon installation and the remaining balance (50%) upon water service connection in accordance with historical practice.

Kevin J. Girard

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Peggy Van Mierlo-West

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