



Date: May 26, 2025

To: Mayor and Council

Author: Tim Del Greco, Senior Manager, Capital Projects and Engineering

RE: Ruthven Pump Station – Continued Improvements and Funding

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. That Council **APPROVE up to \$1,300,000** to facilitate upsizing of the Ruthven Pump Station pumps and to be funded from Development Charges and Kingsville-Lakeshore West Wastewater Working Capital Reserves, with purchasing approval to be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer.
2. That Council **AWARD** engineering and design for upsizing the Ruthven Pump Station pumps to Dillon Consulting Inc. via single sourcing, with costs to be approved by the Senior Manager of Capital Projects and Engineering.

BACKGROUND

During an extreme weather event in August of 2023, several homes in the Ruthven sanitary collection system experienced basement flooding. This flooding prompted Administration to investigate the collection system which led to the discovery of several concerns relating to pump station performance, greenhouse discharges, storm water infiltration, etc.

Since August of 2023, a number of actions have been undertaken in order to improve the capacity and resiliency of the Ruthven sanitary collection system. This includes:

- Detailed engineering investigations of the Ruthven pump station.
- Installation of new relief valves on the Ruthven sanitary forcemain.
- Smoke testing of the collection system to identify infiltration points.
- Various repairs of the collection system to mitigate infiltration.
- Installation of flow monitors to better understand system flows.
- CCTV recordings of the sewer system to identify all service connections.
- Flushed the forcemain of sediment to improve pump flow rates.
- Passed an Interim Control By-Law prohibiting new development in Ruthven.
- Passed a Sewer Use By-Law regulating greenhouse discharges.
- Ordered pressure sustaining valves for the Ruthven forcemain to improve pump flow rates (to be installed in the next 4 weeks).

DISCUSSION

Pressure Sustaining Valves

The installation of pressure sustaining valves (last bullet point above) was recently awarded under the authority of the Acting CAO, Shaun Martinho. The cost to supply and install the valves is \$330K. Our Procurement By-Law specifies that Council approval is required for any award over \$250K. However, the CAO can also approve work over \$250K if it qualifies as an “emergency”.

The definition of an “emergency” per our Procurement By-Law is shown below for your reference. The potential for further basement flooding and sanitary sewer surcharging in Ruthven corresponds to items a, b, c, and e:

- a. *An imminent or actual danger to the life, health or safety of an official, the public, or an Employee while acting on the Town’s behalf;*
- b. *An imminent or actual danger of injury to, or destruction of, property or infrastructure belonging to the Town or a third party to whom the Town would be liable;*
- c. *An unforeseen interruption, or threat of an interruption, of an essential public service;*
- d. *An emergency as defined by the Emergency Management Act and the Emergency Response Plan formulated by the Town; or*
- e. *A spill of a pollutant as contemplated by the Environmental Protection Act.*

This project was competitively solicited by OCWA on behalf of the Town, and on May 14, 2025, the Acting CAO authority was exercised and the work awarded to Haller Mechanical Contractors Inc. Exercising this authority allows the Town to expedite the ordering of parts and materials, some of which have lead times of 4 – 8 weeks.

There is \$400K in the 2025 Capital Budget to address operational issues at the Ruthven Pump Station. This budget is now exhausted following award of the work to Haller Mechanical.

It is anticipated that the new pressure sustaining valves will be installed on the Ruthven forcemain prior to July 1st. This is subject to any manufacturing delays from the supplier. Administration will monitor for performance improvements post installation.

Upsizing of Existing Pumps

The Ruthven Pump Station was designed so that it could accommodate larger pumps should additional pumping capacity ever be required. Upsizing the pumps, along with the action items previously mentioned in this report, is part of a holistic approach to improving the capacity and resiliency of the Ruthven sanitary collection system.

Administration has sourced a rental pump at a cost of \$7,500 per month and is going to install it immediately.

However, in order to purchase and install a new pump in 2025, additional funding is required. It is currently estimated that \$1M to \$1.3M would be required to facilitate:

- Engineering and design.
- Supply and installation of:
 - Larger pumps.
 - New controls.
 - Larger backup generator.
 - Miscellaneous piping.

Should Council approve of this project, it is recommended that Dillon Consulting be awarded the engineering and design work. Dillon has been actively involved in the pump station since 2023, and through their investigations, have an intimate working knowledge of the pump station operations and the current issues. Competitively bidding engineering and design will take additional time, and further, could compromise the success of the overall project.

Dillon is currently preparing a quote for the Town for this engineering work.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Administration anticipated the need to upgrade the Ruthven Pump Station and identified this in the 2022 Kingsville Development Charges Study, with 85% of the cost being attributable to new development.

Based on a budget of \$1,300,000, the Town would fund this project as follows:

- \$1,105,000 from future Development Charges (DC's).
- \$195,000 from the Kingsville-Lakeshore West Wastewater Working Capital Reserve.

It should be noted the Town has fully expended all DC's collected to date on previously approved growth-related projects. Therefore, the Town will need to internally finance the DC component of this project from general reserves and recover this money through the future collection of DC's.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Improving the pumping capacity of the Ruthven Pump Station will mitigate the potential for basement flooding and sewers surcharging to the environment.

CONSULTATIONS

Kingsville Administration
Dillon Consulting
OCWA

PREPARED BY:



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REVIEWED BY:



Richard Wyma
Director of Planning and Development



John Norton
CAO