MUNICIPALITY OF
ARRAN-ELDERSLIE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: April 15, 2025

Subject: CLK-2025-16 Barfoot Municipal Drain Cleanout (2023 & 2024)

Report from: Julie Hamilton, Deputy Clerk

Attachments: Final Assessment Schedule 2023, 2024

Barfoot Drain and Barfoot Drain 2 maps

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council hereby approves Report CLKS-2025-16 Barfoot Municipal Drain Cleanout 2023 and 2024

AND approves the final assessment schedules as prepared by Cobide Engineering Inc for the Barfoot Municipal Drain 2023 AND Barfoot Municipal Drain 2 2024

AND FURTHER authorizes the By-Law to levy the cost of work undertaken for the Barfoot Municipal Drain and Barfoot Municipal Drain 2 be brought forward for approval on today's agenda.

Background

Municipal drains are a system to move water. They are created pursuant to a by-law passed by the municipality. The municipality is responsible for the construction of the drainage system and future maintenance and repair.

Municipal drains are identified by municipal by-law that adopts an engineer's report. These reports contain plans, profiles and specifications defining the location, size and depth of the drain, and how costs are shared among property owners.

All lands, roads, and utilities that are within the watershed of a municipal drain are responsible for the costs of the maintenance of that drain. The cost to each property owner will differ based on the assessment schedule as set out in the Engineers report for each Municipal Drain.

Most municipal drains are either ditches or closed systems, such as pipes or tiles buried in the ground. They can also include structures such as dykes or berms, pumping stations, buffer strips, grassed waterways, storm water detention ponds, culverts and bridges. Some creeks and small rivers are now considered to be municipal drains. Municipal drains are primarily located in rural agricultural areas.

What makes municipal drains different from other forms of drainage systems is that they are municipal infrastructure and the municipality is responsible for their management.

Basic maintenance and repair work falls under Section 74 of the Drainage Act. This usually includes work such as clean outs, removal of beavers/dams, repairing/replacing tile, and generally repairing the existing drain in a way that does not detract from the drain's original construction.

Analysis

The Municipality of Arran-Elderslie has appointed Cobide Engineering as our Drainage Engineer as well as our Drainage Superintendent. They look after the scheduling and oversight of maintenance work associated with our municipal drains.

The Barfoot Drain was constructed after a report by S. W. Archibald, dated August 1956 and approved by By-Law #19-1956.

In 2023 a cleanout was preformed to approximately 2,350m at a total cost of $38,237.50. Total Assessment for the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie for roads is $4,817.30. Attached is a copy of the assessment prepared by Cobide Engineering.

The Barfoot #2 was constructed after a report by S. W. Archibald, dated June 1968 and approved by By-Law #14-1968.

In 2024 a cleanout was preformed to approximately 1,200 m at a cost of $12,099.26 plus a special assessment of $5,880 to replace a private crossing on the Weber property being Lot 21, Concession 8, Elderslie. Attached is a copy of the assessment prepared by Cobide Engineering.

Under Section 74 of the Drainage Act and By-law #19-1956 and By-law #14-1969 the Municipality is responsible for the maintenance of the Barfoot and Barfoot 2 Municipal Drain, at the expense of all upstream owners of lands and roads assessed.

Link to Strategic/Master Plan

6.1 Protecting Infrastructure, Recreation and Natural Assets

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding/Link to Procurement Policy

Barfoot Municipal Drain - Total Assessment for the Municipality for roads is $4,817.30.

Barfoot #2 Municipal Drain - Total Assessment for the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie for roads is $1,462.43.

These amounts will come from account 01-7620-4300.

Approved by: Emily Dance, Chief Administrative Officer