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Council Meeting – October 28, 2025

Subject: McCall Drain - Report for Consideration
Report Number: PW-25-009
Division: Environmental and Infrastructure Services
Department: Environmental Services
Ward: Ward 2
Purpose: For Decision

Recommendation(s):

That staff report PW-25-009, McCall Drain – Report for Consideration be received as information; and

That Council adopt a by-law for the McCall Drain report, dated May 10, 2024, prepared by Bill Dietrich, P.Eng.; and

That staff send a copy of the provisional by-law and notice of Court of Revision to all affected owners in accordance with the *Drainage Act*; and

That the Approved Capital Budget be amended to include a \$5,000 allocation for the McCall Drain, with funding provided from the Drains Construction Reserve (\$1,400) and external recoveries (\$3,600); and

Further that upon completion of the Drainage Act appeals the Drainage Superintendent complete the notifications and process to close the project.

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to inform Mayor and Council that Norfolk County has received the McCall Municipal Drain Report, and to seek Council's decision on whether to adopt the report by by-law in accordance with the Drainage Act.

The McCall Drain is located in Lot 24, Concession 7, within the geographic Township of North Walsingham and Lot 1, Concession 4 within the geographic Township of Charlotteville. Staff had previously brought Report PW-07-44 forward and Council appointed Dietrich Engineering Ltd. to prepare an engineer's report for the reassessment of the McCall Drain.

To proceed, Council has the option to adopt the engineer's report and proceed through the *Drainage Act* or alternatively, Council may refer the report back to the engineer for changes.

This report, prepared under Section 76 of the Drainage Act, provides a revised assessment schedule for future maintenance. Based on this updated information, staff recommend that Council adopt the report by by-law, allowing it to proceed to completion in accordance with the *Drainage Act*.

The adoption of this report will result in a budget amendment to the Capital Plan of \$5,000, which will be funded by the Drains Construction Reserve (\$1,400) and external recoveries (\$3,600). The Drains Construction Reserve has sufficient uncommitted funds to support this budget amendment.

Discussions:

Dietrich Engineering Ltd. was appointed by Council resolution under staff report PW-07-44 to prepare a drainage report for the reassessment of the McCall Drain.

The McCall Drain is located in Lot 24, Concession 7, Geographic Township of North Walsingham and Lot 1, Concession 4 Geographic Township of Charlotteville. (Refer to Attachment 1)

As a result of appointing the engineer staff are in receipt of the McCall Municipal Drain 2024 report dated May 10, 2024, and prepared by Bill Dietrich, P.Eng. (Refer to Attachment 2)

This report under the *Drainage Act*, section 76, provides a new assessment schedule for future maintenance. No physical construction work is proposed under this report. The engineer has reviewed the watershed and recommended changing the assessment for future maintenance based on changes in property boundaries, severances and changes in lands use.

The total estimated cost of the report is \$5,000. Norfolk County is assessed \$1,414 to Forestry Farm Road (County Road 16) and an unopened road allowance to the west of Forestry Farm Road. Norfolk County has the same rights to appeal the County assessments as all other assessed owners.

There are no design or location considerations for public input or for Council consideration. Council must determine whether to adopt the report under by-law or refer the report back to the engineer.

Staff recommend that Council adopt this report under by-law allowing it to proceed through the *Drainage Act* to completion.

All affected owners will receive notice of Council decision and if dissatisfied with the report, have an opportunity to appeal the assessments through the *Drainage Act* appeal bodies.

Finance Comments:

The Approved 2025 Levy Capital Budget does not include an allocation for the reassessment of the McCall Drain.

Based on the presentation of the Engineer’s report, it is recommended that the Capital Budget be amended by \$5,000 to include an engineering budget for this project. The funding sources are recommended based on the Engineer’s revised assessment schedule, which will result in funding to be provided from landowner assessments (\$3,600) and the Drains Construction Reserve (\$1,400).

As shown in the table below, the projected 2025 uncommitted balance of the Drains Construction Reserve is expected to be \$2,518,229, including the impacts of this project.

Drains Construction Reserve	Amount (\$)
Audited 2025 Opening Balance	6,456,286
Contributions	500,000
Projected Commitments	4,436,657
Impacts of this Report	1,400
Projected 2025 Uncommitted Balance	\$2,518,229

There will be no construction costs associated with this project. Once the remaining steps under the *Drainage Act* are completed, the final billing for this project will be brought forward to Council.

Municipalities have the same right to appeals as any owners identified in the drainage report.

Interdepartmental Implications:

Not applicable.

Consultation(s):

Financial Services were consulted in the preparation of this Report.

Strategic Plan Linkage:

Serving Norfolk - ensuring a fiscally responsible organization with engaged employees who value excellent service

Attachment(s):

- Attachment 1 – Site Plan
- Attachment 2 – McCall Drain Report

Approval:

Approved By:
Al Meneses, CAO

Reviewed By:
Andrew Grice, General Manager, Public Works
Stephanie Davis, Director Environmental Services
Chris Dunn, Manager, Stormwater and Drainage

Prepared By:
Bill Mayes,
Drainage Superintendent