

- | |
|---|
| <p>4. Motion – Councillor C. Kitts - Bear River Municipal Drain</p> <p>Motion – Conseillère C. Kitts – Drain municipal de la rivière Bear</p> |
|---|

Committee recommendation(s)

That Council:

- 1. Direct staff to appoint Andrew J. Robinson Consulting as the engineer under Section 78 of the Drainage Act to prepare a report on the necessary improvements to the Bear River Municipal Drain, including consideration of updated capacity, flood mitigation, and compliance with provincial drainage regulations; and**
- 2. Direct staff to monitor the flood conditions throughout the season including the spring melt and during rain events during the summer growing months; and**
- 3. Approve that, should flooding occur within the Bear River Municipal Drain due to the insufficient outlet provided by the drain, staff shall provide such details to the City Clerk, who shall write to the Province of Ontario to request that the Minister authorize emergency works under Section 124 of the Drainage Act as necessary to prevent immediate flooding risks, ensuring minimal impact on affected agricultural lands and infrastructure; and**
- 4. Approve that the appointed engineer report back to Council with recommendations, cost estimates, and proposed implementation timelines for necessary improvements to the Bear River Municipal Drain.**

Recommandation(s) du comité

Que le Conseil :

- 1. Demande au personnel de nommer Andrew J. Robinson Consulting comme ingénieur, conformément à l'article 78 de la *Loi sur le drainage*, afin qu'il prépare un rapport sur les améliorations à apporter au drain municipal de la rivière Bear pour notamment renforcer ses capacités, limiter les inondations et respecter la réglementation provinciale sur le**

drainage;

- 2. Demande au personnel de surveiller les risques d'inondation durant la saison, notamment lors de la fonte printanière et des épisodes pluvieux pendant l'été;**
- 3. Approuve que, si une inondation survient dans le drain municipal en raison de l'étroitesse de sa sortie, le personnel en informe la greffière municipale afin qu'elle demande par écrit au ministre ontarien d'autoriser des travaux d'urgence, en application de l'article 124 de la *Loi sur le drainage*, pour prévenir les risques imminents d'inondation et limiter au maximum la dégradation des terres agricoles et des infrastructures;**
- 4. Approuve que l'ingénieur nommé présente au Conseil des recommandations, une estimation des coûts et un calendrier d'amélioration du drain municipal de la rivière Bear.**

Documentation/Documentation

1. Councillor Catherine Kitts' report dated 6 March 2025 (ACS2025-OCC-CCS-0042).

Rapport de la Conseillère Catherine Kitts daté le 6 mars 2025 (ACS2025-OCC-CCS-0042).
2. Extract of draft Minutes, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, 6 March 2025.

Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal du Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales, le 6 mars 2025.

**Agriculture and Rural
Affairs Committee
Report 22
March 26, 2025**

3

**Comité de l'agriculture et des
affaires rurales
Rapport 22
Le 26 mars 2025**

**Extract of Minute 22
Agriculture and Rural Affairs
Committee
March 6, 2025**

**Extrait du procès-verbal 22
Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires
rurales
Le 6 mars 2025**

Motion - C. Kitts - Bear River Municipal Drain

Motion No. ARAC 2025-22-01

That the Rules of Procedure be suspended to consider the following motion due to flooding of private property within the Bear River Watershed.

WHEREAS: the Bear River Municipal Drain was originally surveyed in 1902 and has undergone several modifications and maintenance efforts over the years, including major improvements in 1930, 1948, 1972, 1989, and 1990; and

WHEREAS: Flooding and inadequate drainage capacity have persisted, affecting approximately 186 hectares of agricultural land, leading to periodic crop losses of up to 25%; and

WHEREAS: The last major engineering review was conducted in 1990 by McNeely Engineering Limited, which identified compensation for insufficient outlet, buffer strips, and various other improvements; and

WHEREAS: Section 78 of the Drainage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. D.17, allows for improvements to an existing drainage works for better use, maintenance, or repair without requiring a petition; and

WHEREAS: Section 124 of the Drainage Act authorizes emergency work where an urgent need exists to mitigate damage to lands or infrastructure; and

WHEREAS Council recognizes the need for an updated engineering assessment and plan for the Bear River Municipal Drain to ensure its long-term effectiveness and sustainability.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to appoint Andrew J. Robinson Consulting as the engineer under Section 78 of

the Drainage Act to prepare a report on the necessary improvements to the Bear River Municipal Drain, including consideration of updated capacity, flood mitigation, and compliance with provincial drainage regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT City staff be directed to monitor the flood conditions throughout the season including the spring melt and during rain events during the summer growing months; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT should flooding occur within the Bear River Municipal Drain due to the insufficient outlet provided by the drain, staff shall provide such details to the City Clerk, who shall write to the Province of Ontario to request that the Minister authorize emergency works under Section 124 of the Drainage Act as necessary to prevent immediate flooding risks, ensuring minimal impact on affected agricultural lands and infrastructure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the appointed engineer report back to Council with recommendations, cost estimates, and proposed implementation timelines for necessary improvements to the Bear River Municipal Drain.

Councillor Kitts spoke to provide context. Motion No. ARAC 2025-22-01 was then put before Committee and was 'CARRIED' as presented.

Carried