

## Bill White

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**From:** Judy Dirksen  
**Sent:** June-27-17 3:55 PM  
**To:** Bill White  
**Subject:** Fwd: Bulk Water Sales

Not sure you received this?

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Wes Rieck <[wes\\_rieck@brightwaterservices.ca](mailto:wes_rieck@brightwaterservices.ca)>  
**Date:** June 23, 2017 at 1:24:27 PM EDT  
**To:** <[mlcolwell@town.minto.on.ca](mailto:mlcolwell@town.minto.on.ca)>, <[relliott@town.minto.on.ca](mailto:relliott@town.minto.on.ca)>, <[janderson@town.minto.on.ca](mailto:janderson@town.minto.on.ca)>  
**Cc:** <[gbridge@town.minto.on.ca](mailto:gbridge@town.minto.on.ca)>, <[rfaulkner@town.minto.on.ca](mailto:rfaulkner@town.minto.on.ca)>, <[jdirksen@town.minto.on.ca](mailto:jdirksen@town.minto.on.ca)>, <[dturton@town.minto.on.ca](mailto:dturton@town.minto.on.ca)>, <[davidjeananderson@yahoo.ca](mailto:davidjeananderson@yahoo.ca)>, <[wayne@town.minto.on.ca](mailto:wayne@town.minto.on.ca)>, 'Paul Ramage' <[paul\\_ramage@brightwaterservices.ca](mailto:paul_ramage@brightwaterservices.ca)>, 'Wes Rieck' <[wes\\_rieck@brightwaterservices.ca](mailto:wes_rieck@brightwaterservices.ca)>  
**Subject:** Bulk Water Sales

Good afternoon,

I am the owner of Bright Water Services, and have been working with Wayne Metzger in attempting to set up a location in your municipality for the purposes of loading our bulk water tankers. I recently received an article detailing some of the discussion surrounding this proposal at council meetings and am hoping to clear up what may be some misinformation. I would gladly present this at a council meeting as well, if given the opportunity.

I want to be clear that in no way do we intend to take water from your community for the purpose of selling it outside the local area. We have a growing base of business within your county and currently have to load our trucks elsewhere in order to service our customer base. From a business stand point this requires more travel time, with our trucks having to return to either Listowel or Waterloo to reload, which in turn increases the cost to our customers. As a business we are always looking to become more efficient which was the cause of my request to Wayne.

We also provide both scheduled and emergency services to businesses and municipalities in the event of watermain breaks, routine maintenance, or emergency reservoir filling. Proper practice recommends that we load the water in the same municipality as the work is being performed, and at the moment we do not have that option in the Town of Minto or surrounding area. An added benefit of a bulk fill point would be the possible usage of this filling situation in the event that our services are required by the Town of Minto.

As you know, water usage can be a very sensitive subject, especially when individuals feel that a public resource is being misused. Our customers are your constituents, we do not sell water to bottlers or anyone other than the end user. Our services include pool and well filling, dust control and compaction on construction sites, as well as aforementioned drinking water haulage. We were proud to work with your colleague Dave Turton in supplying last year's IPM; during that time we had the opportunity to work with Wayne and his staff relating to the source water and found them to be excellent individuals to deal with.

We have partnered with many municipalities to obtain facilities to load our trucks throughout southern Ontario with over 50 sites available for our usage. I would be happy to provide references from these municipalities if that would help put any minds at ease relating to this proposal. As I believe was documented in Wayne's report, we will provide the equipment required to load our trucks and track the water usage; many municipalities that provide us with loading sites appreciate the extra revenue that becomes available to them as a result of our water usage.

It is my hope that we can reach an arrangement for our mutual benefit, if you would like further clarification on any of these points please do not hesitate to email me back or call my cell phone at 5195001249.

Regards,

Wesley Rieck  
Bright Water Services



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## Bill White

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**From:** ThePotts <thefourpotts@EastLink.ca>  
**Sent:** June-19-17 9:15 PM  
**To:** Bill White  
**Subject:** RE: Bulk Water Policy

You have my approval to submit to council. If you would be so kind as to inform me when this will be presented to council, I would like to attend that meeting to hear their response to it. Hopefully this is not the only response that is received.

Thanks for taking the time to respond.  
Sincerely  
Steve

On 06/19/17 03:27 PM, **Bill White** <BWhite@town.minto.on.ca> wrote:  
Good afternoon:

Thank you for your email. With your approval I will include your email and my responses (in red below) with material presented to Council when the policy returns back for their consideration next month.

I am not sure I can fully answer all your questions to your satisfaction but I will do my best. If you have further questions do not hesitate to call me.

Bill White, CAO/Clerk

Town of Minto

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**From:** ThePotts [mailto:thefourpotts@EastLink.ca]  
**Sent:** June-16-17 10:35 PM  
**To:** Bill White

**Subject:** Bulk Water Policy

Good evening Mr. White

I have just finished reading the Bulk Water Fact sheet that is posted on the Town's website. I have also finished reading the article in this weeks Wellington Advertiser in regards to the deferral of the planned sale of bulk water. And I have to say, I was shocked by some of the comments that were made members of council in regards to the response of residents. I can not believe that council was surprised to hear that residents were upset by the news that there was a plan to try and sell bulk water.

There are a number of things that I would like to raise with you in regards to this proposed "Policy". Perhaps it would be best if i did them in point form so that it will easier for me to keep track of them.

1: The proposed rate to be charged will be \$3/ cubic metre. While this rate is definitely higher than the residential rate of \$1.88 that I pay, it is not higher that the \$4.66 that I pay for combined rate of sewer and water. And I have to pay the sewer rate, regardless whether I water my garden, top up my pool, wash my vehicles, etc. Not all of the water that I use goes into the sewer, yet i have to pay for it. And since this water is to be taken by a business, do they need a business license to resell it back in the municipality? Not required. And is there not a commercial water rate that they should be paying? If approved the \$3 per cubic metre would have to be included in the Town's fees and charges bylaw. There is no commercial rate in the fees and charges by-law. There is only a monthly base rate based on the size of water service and then the volume charges which are the same for both commercial, residential, institutional users.

2: There is the matter of the \$100 one time fee. What is this fee for? If the policy is approved bulk water companies would fill out the application and pay the \$100 administration fee each time they wish to set up to take a certain amount of bulk water. This will cover staff time to inspect the connection to the hydrant and monitor the water taking process. This administrative fee will also have to be included in the Town's fees and charges bylaw. Will there be a meter installed on the hydrant that they will be taking water from? If the policy is approved bulk water could only be taken through a metered connection approved by the Town.

3: Who is responsible for the supply, installation and testing of the required back-flow prevention devices? The Town's Overall Responsible Officer or other Licensed Town Water Operator would be responsible. Is that going to be left up to the contractor? No, the \$100 admin fee is to cover the Town's oversight. If so, how do we know it is appropriate for use? Who makes the decision to approve the devices? The Town's Overall Responsible Officer

4: The total amount listed available is 5050 cubic metres. Is that going to be per contractor or an annual total? 5050 cubic metres is the total annual amount. Once that amount is reached bulk water would not be available to contractors. And how is that amount going to be monitored if the source is a hydrant? Metered and approved connection monitored by Town's Overall Responsible Operator. Unless there is a special hydrant somewhere that I have never seen, most of them are not equipped with a meter.

5: While it is stated in the facts that many municipalities provide water for dust control and construction control, is this not a phenomenal waste of potable water? This is a subjective answer, certainly, construction is

common in our community these days and dust control a serious issue for some people affected by construction from time to time. Compaction can be needed for better structural stability for roads and buildings. Why would anyone use expensive treated water for dust control and construction compaction? No other reliable source for taking water.

6: To state in the facts sheet the amount of water used for the IPM is a misleading factor. The amount of revenue generated locally during the event far exceeded the amount of revenue that will be brought in by bulk sales. And it was also a one-off event. When will that an event of that magnitude be held around here again? The draft policy allows for water to be taken for future events which we hope will be frequent.

Since the water meter system was installed "232,862 cubic metres less " water was used by residents. Water rates were increased shortly after the program began to make up for the revenue shortfall. So, due to conservation efforts on the part of residents, water is being saved in the municipality. Yet what benefit have we seen from this? There is no rate increase in 2017. The benefits of reduced consumption are not as easy to measure but can become apparent over time due to reduced wear and tear on equipment. We have a council that is now scrambling to find a way to generate extra "revenue" to make up for the extra costs that are involved with the now surplus. The proposed policy will provide a "\$15,150" revenue. However, by the time costs are factored into this (hook-ups, testing of equipment, etc.) what will the actual return be? \$10,000? \$5,000? Doesn't seem like a really profitable business venture to me. And what happens ally be monitoring this system? This is not a revenue issue for the Town but a service issue as there is a need for some bulk water in this area. What is to stop the contractor from coming in before or after hours to help themselves to a free truck load of water now and then? Having a means for contractors to access bulk water at a reasonable rate should decrease illegal water taking. Their connection would be temporary and under staff supervision. It is an offense to tamper with a fire hydrant without permission of the Town. A shady contractor could connect now and steal water even if the Town does not have a policy.

Now, I have a few things to say about some of the comments in the Wellington Advertiser article dated June 16. I am shocked by some of the comments from some of the councillors and even the mayor himself. To quote Councillor Elliot "I couldn't convince one person that we're doing the right thing." No kidding. Maybe that is an indicator that the people he is supposed to be representing actually have a mind and are standing up for something they believe in strongly. Or how about Councillor Dirksen, "I have not had one person say this was a great idea." But I think the real kicker is the next comment "I suspect if we turned this down someone would say we're throwing 15 grand away". I am pretty sure that most of her constituents would actually commend her for voting against this policy. At the end of the year, what will an extra \$15,000 get for the municipality? This is not a revenue issue for the Town but a service issue as there is a need for some bulk water in this area. Do members of council think that we the people are all sheep and will just follow along blindly? Council has asked for public input on the draft policy.

Council is voted in by the residents of the municipality. Perhaps it is time to actually talk to the residents and get their feelings on the subject. Perhaps it is time to listen to what they are saying. Maybe this is an item that needs to be voted on by the residents, and not just council. This issue is something that is very important to those that live and breathe in the municipality. Council needs to remember that they are there to represent the residents of the municipality. While water is not a charted right under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, it is a needed service that we are paying for. And we are paying dearly for it. The article states that

the rate of \$3/cubic metre is "on the high end" of what Bright pays in other areas, who cares? If they want the water bad enough, they will be willing to pay whatever price is put on it. At the end of the day, our water is our responsibility. To exploit it for a short term gain is not a logical or smart choice. It can almost be guaranteed that this issue will not go quietly.

I hope that these points will be taken into consideration at the next meeting, and I sincerely hope that you hear from many other members of the community.

Respectfully yours

Steve Potts

H-226-429-2005

**Bill White**

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**From:** AngelynnePotts <alahay@EastLink.ca>  
**Sent:** June-26-17 8:14 AM  
**To:** Bill White  
**Subject:** bulk water

Bill White

Good morning; I am a resident of Harriston and I just want to comment briefly on council's decision to defer the sale of bulk water and also the decision to lift the watering ban. I believe that was the right decision. Even though the residents have reduced their consumption of water we should still be conserving what we have. The use reduction was done at some sacrifice or conscious decision on the resident's part and any excess should be conserved for emergency purposes.

Regards

Angelynne Potts