



TOWN OF MINTO

DATE: August 24, 2018
REPORT TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Gordon Duff, Treasurer/Deputy CAO
SUBJECT: National Disaster Mitigation Program – Intake 5

STRATEGIC PLAN:

5.3 Ensure financial plans to include a blend of capital financing methods including long term debt, user fees, grants, internal reserves and taxation, and maintain reserves to the point where Minto reduces reliance on borrowing or tax increases to finance major capital expenditures.

9.7 Promote environmentally friendly development through subdivision and site plan control such as naturalized stormwater management, low maintenance landscaping using native species, and energy and water preservation techniques that enhance design and improve the cosmetics of the community.

BACKGROUND:

The Town and Maitland Valley Conservation Authority have been working toward improving flood plain mapping, watershed monitoring and remediation since 2010. This began with phasing out the Harriston trailer park, and continued with adding watershed monitoring stations in 2014, and ground surveying sections of the flood line through Harriston in 2015. Unfortunately before a suitable scale base mapping system could be found, Harriston and surrounding areas suffered an extreme flood event June 23, 2017. The impact on residents, businesses and public properties was extensive. Staff and Council took action to deal with the immediate emergency, and continue to be committed further actions which would mitigate damage from such events in the future.

C.A.O. Clerk White presented a detailed report at the July 18, 2017 Council meeting, and later that summer Council adopted the County “After Action” report on the event itself. One key action was to ensure accurate flood mapping was available as soon as possible. Council supported an application under the National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP) Stream 2- Flood Mapping. The need for more detailed flood maps than what was currently available has been a high priority and is an important first step in determining future flood management strategies.

This application was submitted in the fall of 2017 and a successful decision was received in the spring of 2018. LIDAR mapping and aerial photography was carried out as soon as weather conditions permitted, and the final maps received this June. The Conservation Authority, Triton Engineering (municipal engineers), Dietrich Engineering (municipal drains)

and the County will soon have copies of the digital mapping. The County hopes to be able to load the new mapping on to their Geographic Information System so that can be accessed without a CAD mapping system.

At the public meeting May 29, 2018 the events of the flood were re-capped with a view to obtaining public input on ideas on possible mitigation actions up-stream, downstream and within Harriston. Last month the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority staff prepared initial models based upon the preliminary data and gave the public opportunities to view this data and provide input.

COMMENTS:

The preliminary flood mapping and models have identified several possible mitigation strategies up-stream, downstream and within Harriston. Farmers and other members of the public seem willing to discuss new ideas. Town Staff met with the MVCA, Triton Engineering and Dietrich Engineering to discuss these ideas and to formulate a plan of action to identify project options. This information will be brought forward at a public meeting scheduled for November 27. One interesting opportunity is to use the Drainage Act to complete work downstream and upstream of Harriston which may eliminate the need for a full Environmental Assessment.

The next two Streams in the NDMP initiative provide funding for Mitigation Planning and Investment in Small Scale Structural Mitigation. At present the NDMP program is to end on March 31, 2020. Linda Dickson, County of Wellington Emergency Manager/CEMC, Town staff, MVCA and municipal engineers have also met to focus on projects which can be reasonably expected to be completed by the hard deadline of March 31, 2020. Cost estimates and other required information is being compiled in to submit an application for the next Intake which is due by September 14, 2018. A draft flood mapping model will be submitted with this application and refinements can be made before the end of October 2018 which is the time that Ontario officials must send these applications to the federal government for review.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The 2018 Flood Mapping project was budgeted at \$132,000 with \$66,000 to come from NDMP. Detailed cost estimates for the next round are in development and will be ready for inclusion with the application, but approximately a range \$220,000 - \$250,000 may be required in this next stage of which Minto's share is 50%. This amount could be funded from the Waterworks lifecycle reserve fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the Treasurer's August 28, 2018 report National Disaster Mitigation Program-Intake 5 and approves an application for Mitigation Planning and Small Scale Structural Mitigation to include analysis of a limited number of alternatives, cost estimates,

regulatory approvals and minor structural work under the National Disaster Mitigation Program subject to Council receiving updated cost estimates before signing any Agreements.

Gordon Duff, Treasurer/Deputy CAO